

From: [MCCLINCY Matt](#)
To: [Chip Humphrey](#); [Eric Blischke](#)
Cc: [ANDERSON Jim M](#)
Subject: FW: Willamette Cover Petroleum-contaminated sediments
Date: 09/11/2007 01:22 PM

[attachment "Willamette Cove Petroleum Contaminated Sediments.ppt" deleted by Chip Humphrey/R10/USEPA/US]

Chip and Eric,

Attached is Kevin's write up and photos of the petroleum impacted sediments observed at Willamette Cove. The impacted sediments appear to be in-river and below an elevation that the Port of Portland considers part of the upland site. Consequently, DEQ requests that EPA direct the LWG to characterize the nature and extent of sediment contamination in this area as part of the Round 3 RI work. As noted below, Kevin Parrett has offered his assistance in guiding the LWG sampling team to this location. DEQ would also like to observe the sampling effort once it is scheduled. Please contact either myself or Kevin if you have any questions.

Regards,

Matt McClincy

-----Original Message-----

From: PARRETT Kevin
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2007 11:27 AM
To: MCCLINCY Matt
Cc: 'Amanda Spencer'; 'Moore, Sara'
Subject: Willamette Cover Petroleum-contaminated sediments

Matt,

On August 28, 2007, I performed a more thorough inspection of the beach at Willamette Cove. Joining me during this inspection were Sara Moore of the Port of Portland and Amanda Spencer of Ash Creek Associates (the Port's consultant). Amanda and I advance several shallow test pits in silt deposits along the water's edge using a hand held shovel. This work followed previous observations of potential petroleum-contaminated soil/sediment in Willamette Cove (see attached email).

The attached PowerPoint file shows the location and characteristics of the most highly impacted test pit where NAPL blebs were discovered. These contaminated sediments appear to be present riverward of the Willamette Cove (upland) property boundary, which is Ordinary Low Water, and within the Portland Harbor Superfund domain. As such, the Port's consultant declined to collect samples for chemical analysis.

Let me know how I can be of assistance when the LWG investigates and samples this area. At minimum, I would like to be present during the sampling to assure samples are collected from the correct location. Also note that samples should be collected before the end of September while river levels are still low.

Thanks.

Kevin Parrett
Northwest Region Cleanup Section
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Phone 503-229-6748

----- Message from "MCCLINCY Matt" <Matt.Mcclincy@state.or.us> on Thu, 26 Jul

2007 11:55:29 -0700 -----

To: <Blischke.Eric@epamail.epa.gov>, <humphrey.chip@epa.gov>,
<koch.kristine@epa.gov>
cc: "ANDERSON Jim M" <Jim.M.Anderson@state.or.us>, "PARRETT Kevin"
<Kevin.Parrett@state.or.us>

Subject: FW: Apparent Contamination in Willamette Cove

All,

I have asked Kevin to keep me updated as to the Port of Portland's response and progress he makes working with the Port to characterize this area. Kevin felt that this is more of a local river bank/beach issue and not, for example, an expression of upland groundwater plume.

Chip and Eric, I would encourage you to add it to the list of potential in-water data gaps. If the Port argues it is not part of the upland site, we may have to come at it from the in-water direction. Kevin and I did discuss that DEQ may need to collect initial screening samples (e.g., PCBs) from the exposed area if the Port balks. The main thing is to not miss the sampling opportunity this summer/fall presented by the low river stage.

Matt

-----Original Message-----

From: PARRETT Kevin [mailto:Kevin.Parrett@state.or.us]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007 10:06 AM
To: LaFranchise, Nicole
Cc: Amanda Spencer; MCCLINCY Matt
Subject: Apparent Contamination in Willamette Cove

Nicole,

DEQ conducts monthly inspections along the shoreline of the McCormick & Baxter sediment cap. These inspections occasionally extend as far into Willamette Cove as we can walk before encountering steep bank, the purpose of which is to look for the presence of petroleum sheens that may result from M&B. During yesterday's inspection we discovered a substantial area of apparently contaminated soil/sediment in Willamette Cove in the vicinity of the Port of Portland's former dry docks. This area is several hundred feet down river from the petroleum removal performed in 2004 and appears to be a separate issue. The apparent contamination is located at about the Ordinary Low Water Mark and is described as:

- * Silty soil/sediment
- * Gray in color
- * Moderately strong petroleum odor
- * Generates sheen when disturbed

The silt appears to be a discrete lens or unit which peaks through the overlying sand and bank riprap at several locations during low water levels. It is unclear how far the potentially contaminated silt extends under the rip-rapped bank or into the river. These silt pockets have a somewhat spongy feel when walked upon. Attached are photos and a figure showing the location and characteristics of yesterday's observance. Since this area is only exposed during very low water levels, further characterization should be performed this summer or early fall. I'd like to schedule a time in the coming weeks when I could inspect this area with you or Amanda.

I've included Matt McClincy on this email since it is unclear whether the apparent contamination resides within the upland portion of Willamette Cove and/or the in-water portion of Portland Harbor. You may also want to inform your counterpart on the LWG.

<<Suspect contamination map.ppt>> <<Suspect Contamination photo 1.JPG>>
<<Suspect Contamination photo 2.JPG>>

Kevin Parrett
Northwest Region Cleanup Section
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Phone 503-229-6748